

# Community Partnership Forum Project

September 2001-April 2002; Summary of Results



## Background

- Livable Communities Policy and Working Team
- Developed Recommendations/Work Plan to Implement Policies
- Included Assessing Department's Projects Strengths/Weaknesses
- Interviewed WSDOT's Regional Administrators
- Developed List of Issues

## Project Review Issues

- Disconnect between planning efforts and final project design
- Department procedures unclear – lack “roadmap” of processes
- Design standards don't address urban design needs
- Cumbersome, costly review processes
- Lack of good communication
- Change-over of staff or political leadership
- WSDOT doesn't understand local agency funding restrictions

## The Team

- Created Forum – What are the Real Issues?
  - Local and state transportation professionals
  - Shared concerns and issues
  - Learned from case studies and other states
  - Developed implementable solutions

## Purpose And Goals

- Understand Barriers to Implementing Commission's Livable Community Policies
  - Including professional input on barriers and successes to effective partnerships
- Develop Solutions to Dismantle Existing or Perceived Barriers

## Community Partnership Forum Products

1. **The Guidebook**
  - Bridging gap between planning and Managing Project Delivery
  - Best ways to interact, plan, design, and build projects
2. **Training Plan**
  - Plan for developing important project development skills
3. **Recommendations**
  - Primary issues to address

(OVER)

### 1. The **Guidebook**

- **Emphasizes the process side of joint projects from planning to construction**
  - Communication
  - Teamwork
  - Up-front evaluation
- **Builds on existing WSDOT programs, e.g. "Managing Project Delivery"**
- **Creates a strong framework for working together more effectively**
  - Saving time and money
  - Improving WSDOT and local jurisdictions relations
- **Highlights design flexibility & how to get there**
  - Ensure desired project can be built on state facilities
  - Right team upfront

### 2. The **Training Plan**

- **"Context Sensitive Design" principles**
- **Public involvement and conflict resolution**
- **Teamwork and communication strategies**
- **Approval process and document quality**

### 3. The **"Recommendations"**

- **Communication**
  - Visioning, teamwork, early planning
- **Project advocacy**
  - Single individual
- **Empowerment of project staff**
  - Decision making authority
  - Eliminate compartmentalization
- **Encouraging flexibility with design guidelines and standards**
- **High product quality**
  - FHWA and eliminate WSDOT staff review time
- **The elimination of dual linear review**
  - Deviations and Channelization Plan
- **A WSDOT overhaul of current billing procedures**
  - Different standards for WSDOT than for locals

#### *How's WSDOT's Implementing?*

- Context Sensitive Design Workshop April 30 & May 1, 2002
- Guidebook Review Process complete June 2002, delivery late July
- WSDOT developing Community Resource Center and Website – Fall 2002
- Safety and Aesthetics Interdisciplinary Group – Addressing Design Issues
- WSDOT Developing Community Partnership Training Plan to Partner Projects Successfully - Fall/Winter 2002/2003

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